

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: DEREGULATION OF LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN COMPETITIVE MARKETS	DOCKET NO. INU-04-1
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ORDER DENYING MOTION TO STRIKE

(Issued August 16, 2004)

On July 13, 2004, the Utilities Board (Board) received a letter from Coon Creek Telecommunications (Coon Creek) requesting that the Board remove or disregard the portion of the initial statement filed by Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom (Iowa Telecom), which pertains to the Belle Plaine exchange. Coon Creek stated that it has not overbuilt the Belle Plaine exchange as suggested by Iowa Telecom and that such information should be disregarded.

On July 27, 2004, Iowa Telecom responded to Coon Creek's letter by filing a "Response to Coon Creek's Motion to Strike." In support of its motion, Iowa Telecom states that while it is unsure whether Coon Creek's letter was intended as a motion to strike, Iowa Telecom is responding to Coon Creek's request to disregard Iowa Telecom's information regarding the overbuilt status of the Belle Plaine exchange. Iowa Telecom also states that given the relevant and accurate nature of its discussion of competition in the Belle Plaine exchange in Iowa Telecom's initial statement of position, the Board should disregard Coon Creek's request.

On August 13, 2004, Coon Creek filed a letter with the Board indicating that it did not request that the Board strike any information in this docket. Rather, the statement relied upon by Iowa Telecom in its response was intended to be part of a more informal discussion.

Because no formal request to strike information in this docket has been made, the Board will deny any perceived request to strike portions of Iowa Telecom's information regarding the Belle Plaine exchange that has been submitted in this docket.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Any request made by Coon Creek Telecommunications on July 13, 2004, to strike information from the statement of position filed by Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom, is denied.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 16th day of August, 2004.